

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

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Ams De PCh.

June 15, 1979

TO:

The Secretary

FROM:

HA - Patricia M. Derian

From The A

Study Mission to Argentina by the Association of the Bar of the City of New York

Attached is a copy of the report of the New York Bar's study mission, led by Orville Schell, which visited Argentina in April. The report confirms many of the grim accounts we have received from many other sources about the human rights situation in Argentina.

The report reviews Argentina's State of Siege provision, concluding that extended PEN (National Executive Power) detentions are "highly questionable." It also states that the regime is without authority to deny prisoners the constitutionally guaranteed "right of option" — the right to choose exile rather than political imprisonment. It discusses prison conditions and the role, so far quite limited, of the Argentine bar and judicial system in challening or restricting abuses. It is generally pessimistic about future progress.

The most significant part of the report, however, is its review of the situation of Argentina's "disappeared," whose ranks include numerous lawyers:

"There is no question that since March 24, 1976, groups of armed people serving in military, police, or other state security forces have abducted thousands of people, subjecting most of the victims to torture, killing many, holding others in concentration camps or other secret places, and withholding from their families and all the world word either of their whereabouts or of whether they remain alive." (p. 26).

The report terms the fate of the "disappeared" "the most starkly brutal human rights violations in Argentina or, indeed, almost anywhere in the world that seeks to be

civilized." There has been no accounting on the missing, and the report sees few signs of progress in government circles toward curbing the practice or even facing the problem (pp. 31, 36). Disappearances continue (p. 27).

Attachment:

Report of the Mission of Lawyers to Argentina April 1-7, 1979

Drafted:HA:DMartin x22741

Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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File Ansin

PAGE, 01 ACTION RP-10

PAGE, 01 BUENOS 08257 080648Z

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 10-14 ADS-00 SR-04 TRSE-00 OMB-01
ABF-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 L-03 SS-15
SP-02 HA-05 NSC-05 /087 W

R 051956Z OCT 79
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2673
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL BUENOS AIRES 8257

E.O. 12065: GDS 10/5/85 (DAVIS, VERA L.) OR-P TAGS: SREF UNHCR AR SUBJ: (U) INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR REFUGEE SETTLEMENT

REF: STATE 253764

1. S - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. OCTOBER 4 EMBOFFS DISCUSSED THE PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHEMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR REFUGEE SETTLEMENT AND LEFT AIDE MEMOIRE WITH WORKING LEVEL CONTACTS AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. THE ARGENTINES WERE SYMPATHETIC, BUT NON-COMMITTAL. THEY MENTIONED THE 5,000 INDOCHINESE REFUGEES RECENTLY ADMITTED BY ARGENTINA AS EVIDENCE OF THE GOA'S INTEREST IN THIS PROBLEM AND SUGGESTED THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN WHEN THE UNHER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS NEXT WEEK.

Declassified | Case: ITX= 52323 Date: :1-02-2013

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 . • BUENOS 08029 272111Z ACTION RP-07

INFO 007-01 AR4-11 ADS-20 SSO-00 IO-14 VO-25 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 FBIE-00 /038 V

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FM AMERIBASSY EUEMOS PAIRES
TO SECSTATE VASHOC IMMEDIATE 2576
INFO INS/CO WASHOC
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ETHTED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 2029

STATE FOR S/RP (AILEEN ROBINSON), ARA/ECA

INS/GO FOR INS/CORAP (MR. POTTER)

E.O. 12055: N/A
TAGS: CVIS SREF SHUM AR
SUBJ: HEMISPHERIC PAROLE PROGRAM: REQUEST FOR VOLAG, CASE OF VICTOR
HIGUEL PEREZ-FERNANDEZ, 127/78

REF: 76 RUFNOS AIRES 5371

- 1. URHER BUENCS AIRES INFORMED EMBASSY ON SEPT 26, 1579
 THAT SUBJECT HAS BEEN HANDSTED BY THE UN AIM IS SEEKING
 RESTITLEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES. THE GOVERNMENT OF
 ARGENTIMA HAS CREETED HIS EXPULSION TO HIS COUNTRY OF BIRTH,
 CHILE, AND HIS FAMILY IS VERY CONCERNED FOR HIS SAFETY IF
 THIS SHOULD TAKE PLACE.
- 2. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA: VICTOR HIGUEL PEREZ-FERNANDEZ, DPOB:
 OCT 14, 1545, SAITIAGO, CHILE. WIFE: ANA MARIA BEIRAC DE
 PEREZ, PROB: JUHE 3, 1953, MENDOZA, ARGENTINA. CHILOREM:
 VICTOR HIGUEL PEREZ, DPOB: DEC 11, 1970, MENDOZA, ARGENTINA
 AND MARIA ALEJANDRA PEREZ, DFOB: OCT 12, 1972, MENDOZA, ARGENTINA.
 3. VICE COMPUSUL ARINITAT R. SACKETT INTERVIEVED MR.
 PEREZ AT LA PLATA PRISON AND FOLLOWING IS HIS REPORT:
 QUOTE MR. VICTOR MIGUEL PEREZ-FERNANDEZ VAS EORN IN
 SANTIAGO, CHILE IN 1945. HE LIVEO IN SAINIAGO UNTIL THE
 RSE OF 18 WHEN HIS FAMILY MOVED TO MENDOZA, ARGENTINA WHERE
 KE LIVED UNTIL 1974 WHEN HE MOVED TO BURNOS AIRES. MR.
 PEREZ IS HARRIED AND HAS TWO GHIDDEN.
- 4. MR. PEREZ DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL AFTER COMPLETING THE 7TH GRADE AND STARTED WORKING AS A CARPENTER. FROM 1952 UNTIL 1575 ME WORKED FOR A NUMBER OF COUNTROLLION COMPANIES IN THE MEMBOZA AREA. WHILE IN MEMBOZA WE MAS A MEMBER OF THE SIMPLICATION CONSTRUCTION WORKERS? WINDOW FOR THE LO NO UNION OFFICES MOR PARTICIPATED IN MAY UNION, ACTIVITIES. IN 1975 MR. PEREZ-FERNANDEZ MOVED TO EMEMBOS ARES WHERE ME WORKED AS AN INDEPENDENT CARPENTER ON A MUMBER OF EMILIBIES PROJECTS.
- S. MR. PEREZ IS NOT PARTICULARLY POLITICALLY ACTIVE. HE WASH'T A HEMBER OF A POLITICAL PARTY BUT STATED THAT HE DID PREFER THE PERGYLET PARTY. HIS GULY POLITICAL PARTIVITIES INVOLVED A REIGHBOSHOOD CAMPAIGN HIN MENDOZA IN 1573. MR. PEREZ MASS MEUER VOTED. HE STATED THAT HE PREFERS A DEMOCRATIC FORM OF GOVERNMENT BECAUSE IT GIVES THE PEOPLE A REGGER VOICE IN RUMMING THE COUNTRY.
- 5. IN DECEMEER 1975, MR. PEREZ-FERMANDEZ CUT HIS WRIST WHILE WORKING ON AN AFARTHAIT BUILDING AND WAS LAYED OFF. DUE TO THE SEVERITY OF THE CUT HE COULD NOT DO ANY HEAVY CONSTRUCTION WORK AND STARTED SEARCHING FOR A SMALL REPAIR JOB THAT WOULDIN'T INVOLVE HEAVY LABOR. A FRIEND FOUND HIM A JOB REPAIRING A POWSE IN LONGAMPS, IT WAS A ONE NAM JOB

BUENOS 08029 272111Z

THAT WOULD TAKE APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS TO COMPLETE. THE HOUSE BELONGED TO A MAN NAMED JAIME VILLAMARIN. MR. PEREZ DID NOT KNOW MR. VILLAMARIN BUT THOUGHT HE POSSIBLY WAS A LARCE LEADER, MR. PEREZ-FERNANDEZ REPORTED TO WORK AT MR. VILLAMARIN'S HOUSE ON DECEMBER 19, 1975, THAT SAME MORNING THE HOUSE WAS RAIDED BY A GROUP OF ARMED MEN IN CIVILIAN CLOTHING. MR. PEREZ-FERNANDEZ, MR. VILLAMARIN, MRS. VILLAMARIN AND HR. VILLAMARIN'S UNCLE WERE ARRESTED. BLIND-FOLDED AND TAKEN TO AN UNKNOWN LOCATION FOR QUESTIONING. ALL FOUR WERE TORTURED FOR 27 DAYS, DURING THE TORTURING MR. MILLAMARIN WENT INSANE AND HIS UNCLE DIED FROM THE MISTREATHENT, AFTER 27 DAYS MR. PEREZ WAS TRANSFERRED TO LA PLATA PRISON, MR. PEREZ-FERNANDEZ HAD NEVER BEEN ARRESTED BEFORE AND FELT HIS ARREST WAS DUE TO THE FACT THAT HE HAPPENED TO BE AT MR. VILLAMARIN'S HOUSE WHEN IT WAS RAIDED. HE COULD THINK OF NO OTHER REASON FOR HIS ARREST.

- 7. MR. PEREZ-FERNANDEZ HAS TWICE REQUESTED OPTION, 1977 AND 1978. BOTH REQUESTS WERE REFUSED.
- 8. IF ALLOYED TO TRAVEL TO THE WHITED STATES, MR. PEREZ WOULD LIKE TO TRAVEL WITH HIS WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN. THEY HAVE MO FAMILY IN THE CHITED STATES AND DO NOT HAVE THE MODEY FOR PASSAGE TO THE U.S. MR. PEREZ-FERNANDEZ APPEARS HENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY MEALTHY.
- 9. THE CONSULAR OFFICER RECOMMENDS THAT A CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTABILITY BE ISSUED AND APPLICATION FOR PAROLE INTO THE UNITED STATES BE APPROVED FOR MR. HICTOR MIDDLE FEREZ-FERMANDEZ. ALL BACKGROUND CHECKS WERE NEGATIVE AND THE PERSONAL INTERVIEW DEVELOPED NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION. UNDOUGTE.
- 10. THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CONSULAR OFFICER'S REPORT WAS AFFIRMED BY INSUFFICER P. A. REYES.
- 11. THE FOLLOWING "A" FILE HUMBERS HAVE BEEN ASSISHED:
 VICTOR MIGUEL FEREZ-FERHANDEZ A-24 499 410
 ANA HARIA BETRAC DE PEREZ A-24 499 411
 VICTOR MIGUEL PEREZ A-24 498 412
 MARIA ALEJANDRA PEREZ A-24 498 413
- 12. S/RP: PLEASE REQUEST THE ASSIGNMENT_OF A VOLUNTARY AGENCY FROM ACVA AND CABLE THE ASSURANCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- 13. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.

Declassified | Case: 177= 52323 Date |1-02-2013

Department of

INCOMING TELEGRAM

BUENOS 07849 211536Z ACTION ARA-18

INFO OCT-81 SS-14 ADS-80 HSCE-88 SP-82 L-81 SY-82

SYE-00 MCT-01 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 SR-01 SSO-08 /037 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2493 O O N F | D E N T | A L BUENOS AIRES 7849

LIMBIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY VAKY FROM AMBASSADOR CASTRO

E.O. 12865: GDS 9-21-85 (CHAPLIN, MAXWELL) OR-M TAGS: SHUM AR SUBJ: (C) TIMERMAN CONDITIONAL REQUEST FOR REFUGE

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

- 2. OIL THE AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 20 THE AMBASSADOR RECEIVED A VISIT FROM RABBI MARSHALL MEYER. WHO MINISTERS TO JACOBO TIMERMAN. HE HAD BROUGHT WITH HIM A TYPED MESSAGE FROM TIMERMAN WHICH THE LATTER HAD DELIVERED TO HIM DURING A VISIT THAT AFTERNOON. THE HEMORANDUM WAS IN TYPED FORM SINCE TIMERMAN ASSUMES HIS APARTMENT IS UNDER ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE, AND HE CANNOT DISCUSS MATTERS GPENLY WITH HIS RABBI. THE MEMORALDUM DEALS WITH THE POSSIBILITY THE GOA MAY GRANT TIMERMAN LIBERTY BUT WILL NOT PROVIDE HIM WITH A PASSPORT TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. HE ANTICIPATES THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL SIMPLY WITHDRAW POLICE PROTECTION FROM HIS APARTMENT WHICH, HE BELIEVES, WOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO A SENTENCE OF DEATH, HE OBSERVES THAT AS A MATTER OF FACT SINCE SEPTEMBER 17 WHEN THE ARMY LEARNED OF THE COURT'S DECISION. THE GUARD ON HIS HOUSE HAD BEEN TRIPLED AND THE POLICE COMMISARIO TOLD HIS BROTHER THEY HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT HIS KIDNAPPING WAS BEING PLANNED BY SOME GROUP.
- 3. THE MEMORANDUM CONTINUES THAT IF HE IS FREED BUT NOT GRANTED A PASSPORT, HE WILL HAVE TO LEAVE HIS APARTMENT. HE SAYS HE COULD GO TO THE ISRAELI EMBASSY BUT IT IS AN UNPLEASANT PLACE WHICH WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM AND HE WOULD PREFER TO STAY IN THE U.S. EMBASSY RESIDENCE. HE SAYS SINCE HE WOULD BE A FREE MAN, IT WOULD NOT BE A QUESTION OF ASYLUM BUT SIMPLY OF BEING AN INVITED GUEST. THE MEMO INDICATES HE BELIEVES THAT THE WASHINGTON ATMOSPHERE IS SUCH THAT U.S. OFFICIALS WOULD LOCK FAVORABLY ON HIS TAKING REFUGE IN THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE.
- 4. TIMERMAN STATES THAT IF HE IS GRANTED A PASSPORT, THERE IS NO PROBLEM RECAUSE HE WOULD BE SENT TO THE AIRPORT ACCOMPANIED BY AN ARMY OF POLICE.
- 5. AMBASSADOR CASTRO CONSIDERS THAT THE CONTINGENCY FEARED BY TIMERMAN IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY, AT LEAST IN THE HEXT FEW DAYS. THE JUNTA IS MEETING MONDAY AND TUESDAY, ACCORDING TO VIOLA, AND WE ASSUME IT WILL DISCUSS TIMERMAN THEN. AMBASSADOR HAS TENTATIVE APOINTMENT TO SEE VIOLA ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26. DESPITE THE IMPROBABILITY OF THE CONTINGENCY. IT CANNOT BE ENTIRELY DISCOUNTED. SHOULD TIMERHAN BE FREED AND PROTECTION WITHDRAWN, AMBASSADOR PROPOSES TO INVITE HIM TO REMAIN AT THE RESIDENCE AS AN INVITED GUEST AND TO TRANSPORT HIM TO THE RESIDENCE (AND PRESUMABLY

. SUBSEQUENTLY TO THE AIRPORT) IN HIS OFFICIAL ARHORED VEHICLE. AT THE SAME TIME. EMBASSY WOULD MAKE A FORCEFUL REQUEST TO PRESIDENT, GENERAL VIOLA AND MINISTER OF INTERIOR TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM SECURITY TO RESIDENCE. WE BELIEVE SUCH SECURITY WOULD BE PROVIDED.

6. WHILE WE REPEAT THIS CONTINGENCY SEEMS REMOTE. AMBASSADOR WISHES REASSURANCE THAT DEPARTMENT DOES NOT CRIECT TO HIS PROPOSED OFFER OF HOSPITALITY AND REFUGE TO JACOBO TIMERMAN SHOULD THAT SEEM ADVISABLE. CASTRO

ARGENTINA ARGENTINA

eclassified Case: 17X= 52823 Date: 2-2018

Department of State

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INCOMING TELEGRAM -

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 10-14 ADS-00 RP-07 /038 W

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C O N F | B E N T | A L GENEVA 13978

E.O. 12065: GDS 8/22/84 (HOYT, MICHAEL P.E.) OR-O TAGS: SHUM, SREF, ICRC, AR SUBJECT: USF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ICRC PROGRAM IN

REF: GENEVA 13486

- 1. K ENTIRE TEXT)
- 2. REQUEST REPLY TO REFTEL. SORENSON

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM

PAGE #1 STATE 288294

ORIGIN SR-18

INFO OCT-88 ARA-11 ADS-88 HA-85 VO-85 CA-81 INSE-88 SSO-88 SIG-83 MMO-81 /036 R

DRAFTED BY S/RP - AVROBINSON APPROVED BY S/RP - CRUSSELL ARA/ECA - J. AHDRE CA/VO - SUE PATTERSON (SUBS) INS/CO - H. EBAUGH (PHONE) S/RP - L. HARIHELLI

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E.O. 12065: GDS 8/8/85 (RUSSELL, CHRIS) S/RP

TAGS: SHUM, SREF, CVIS, AR

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

SUBJECT: HEMISPHERIC PAROLE PROGRAM - PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING REFUGEE PAROLE CASES

REF: (A) MEMO DATED 7/11/79; (B) MEMO DATED 7/12/79; (C) MEMO DATED 6/22/79; (D) STATE 153883

- 1. PER GUIDELINES CONTAINED IN REFIEL (D), IF A CASE IS CONDITIONALLY APPROVED BY THE CONSULAR OFFICER, THE APPLICANT IS GIVEN A LIST OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTS WITH CERTIFICATES, ETC. HE IS THEN INTERVIEWED BY AN INHIGRATION OFFICER. IF THE INHIGRATION OFFICER CONCURS WITH THE CONSULAR OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION, THE CASE WILL BE APPROVED. HOWEVER, IF THERE IS A DIFFERENCE OF CRINION BETWEEN THE CONSULAR OFFICER AND INHIGRATION OFFICER THEN, AND ONLY THEN, SHOULD A CASE BE SUBHITTED TO DEPARTMENT (S/RP) FOR COUSULATION WITH THE DIRECTOR OF INS' OFFICE OF REFUGGE AND PARQUE.
- 2. IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, DEPARTMENT IS UNABLE TO UNDER-STAND REASON EMBASSY MAS FORWARDED CASES OF MARIO DANIEL LORENZO, CARLOS OMAR RUDA, AND JUAN CARLOS FERRIOLO TO DEPARTMENT AND INS/CO FOR FURTHER PROCESSING. EACH OF THESE CASES WAS BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY BOTH DEFICERS.
- 3. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO REVIEW AGAIN GUIDELINES CONTAINED IN REFTEL ID REGARDING PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING REFUGEE PAROLE CASES. IF FURTHER GUIDAINCE IS NEGLED, PLEASE CONTACT KENNETH SACKETT OR CAROLE BARRISH AT OUR EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES OR AILEEN ROBINSON (S/RP) IN THE DEPARTMENT.
- DEPARTMENT HAS FORWARDED THE FILES OF MESSRS. LORENZO, RUDA AND FERRIOLO TO ACVA FOR ASSIGNMENT TO THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.
- 5. FOR ALL POSTS: PLEASE FOLLOW GUIDELINES CONTAINED IN

REFTEL (D) CAREFULLY WHEN PROCESSING REFUGEE PAROLE CASES.

Fite Miss

Chicala Jair
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To me pl

Declassified Case: ITX= 82823 Date:

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Department of State

ACTION HA-05

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P 101556Z AUG 79 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6780 INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 13486

E.O. 12065: GDS 8/10/84 (HOYT, MICHAEL P.E.) OR-O TAGS: SHUM, SREF, ICRC, AR SUBJECT: USF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ICRC PROGRAM IN ARGENTINA

. REF: STATE 168898

- 1. A ENTIRE TEXT)
- 2. MISSION CONFIRMED WITH ICRC THAT FIGURE OF 550,000 SWISS FRANCS REMAINS THE CURRENT SHORTFALL IN THIS YEAR'S ARGENTINE PRISONER VISITOR PROGRAM. ICRC WILL SHORTLY PROVIDE US AND DONORS WITH CURRENT REPORT OF PROGRESS AND STATUS OF EXPENDITURES.
- 3. WHAT IS STATUS OF FUNDS "HOPED" FOR IN REFTEL? VANDEN HEUVEL

+ le TNA

eclassified | Case: ITX= 52823 Date: